

PTOL-413A (09-04)  
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form

10/597,837  
Application No.: 11/535,896 First Named Applicant: K. Donald Evans  
Examiner: Douglas J. McGinty Art Unit: 1796 Status of Application: Pending

#### Tentative Participants:

(1) Douglas J. McGinty (2) Evan R. Witt  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Date of Interview: January 28, 2009 Proposed Time: 3PM (AM/PM)

#### Type of Interview Requested:

(1) ☒ Telephonic (2) ☐ Personal (3) ☐ Video Conference

Exhibit To Be Shown or Demonstrated: ☐ YES ☐ NO  
If yes, provide brief description: \_\_\_\_\_

### Issues To Be Discussed

| Issues<br>(Ref., Obj., etc)                          | Claims/<br>Fig. #s | Prior<br>Art | Discussed                | Agreed                   | Not Agreed               |
|--|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) _____  | _____              | _____        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) _____  | _____              | _____        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) _____  | _____              | _____        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (4) _____  | _____              | _____        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation Sheet Attached |                    |              |                          |                          |                          |

Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented: Please see attached.

An interview was conducted on the above-identified application on \_\_\_\_\_.  
NOTE: This form should be completed by applicant and submitted to the examiner in advance of the interview (see MPEP § 713.01).

This application will not be delayed from issue because of applicant's failure to submit a written record of this interview. Therefore, applicant is advised to file a statement of the substance of this interview (37 CFR 1.133(b)) as soon as possible.

/Evan R. Witt/  
Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature

Douglas McGinty  
Examiner/SPE Signature

Evan R. Witt  
Typed/Printed Name of Applicant or Representative  
32,512  
Registration Number, if applicable

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.133. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 322 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2

Appl. No. : 10/597,837 Confirmation No.: 6962  
Applicant : K Donald Evans et al.  
Title : MULTIUSE, SOLID CLEANING DEVICE  
AND COMPOSITION  
Filed : August 9, 2006  
TC/A.U. : 1796  
Examiner : Douglas J. McGinty  
Docket No. : 14216.16

Appl. No. : 11/535,896 Confirmation No.: 8242  
Applicant : K Donald Evans et al.  
Title : MULTIUSE, SOLID CLEANING DEVICE  
AND COMPOSITION  
Filed : September 27, 2006  
TC/A.U. : 1796  
Examiner : Douglas J. McGinty  
Docket No. : 14216.21  
Customer No. : 21999

#### **Outline of Discussion Items for Examiner Interview:**

##### ***Double Patenting***

Same Invention. Both applications were rejected under Section 101 under grounds of "same invention" double patenting. While the claims are similar, they are not identical. In application 10/597,837, the claims are drawn to a "method of providing *laundry* cleaning agent to a *laundry* cleaning machine." In contrast, the claims of copending application 11/535,896 are drawn to a "method of providing cleaning agent to a cleaning machine."

Obviousness-type. We suggest submitting a Terminal Disclaimer.

##### ***Section 103(a) Rejections***

Seccanski (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0006891) in view of Laughlin (U.S. Patent No. 5,342,587). The Office Action urges "In its *dissolved* state, the device is deposited within the laundry cleaning machine tub." The Examiner seems to believe that this interpretation is consistent with the claim language which states: "obtaining a multiuse laundry cleaning device in a *solid* state" and "*depositing* the laundry cleaning device *within* the laundry cleaning machine tub under conditions such that the *laundry cleaning device is exposed to water from the plurality of laundry wash and rinse cycles.*"

Scepaniski and Laughlin disclose external detergent dispensers. They do not disclose a multiuse cleaning device in solid state that is deposited within the cleaning machine such that the cleaning device is exposed to water from the plurality of wash and rinse cycles.

Dawson (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,733) in view of Scepaniski. The Dawson patent discloses a receptacle for dispensing a solid cleaning tablet. Dawson teaches that two tablets are used for one washing operation. Col. 4, lines 20-21. When the washing operation has been completed, the receptacle is removed from the machine and stored for subsequent use. Col. 4, lines 26-27. It does not appear to disclose dispensing a substantially consistent quantity of cleaning agent over a plurality of laundry wash and rinse cycles – in other words, Dawson does not disclose a multiuse, solid cleaning device.

Another claim limitation that does not appear to be taught by the cited prior art is the feature that the multiuse cleaning device dissolves in water and releases a substantially consistent quantity of cleaning agent over a plurality of cleaning wash and rinse cycles. Claims 41-43 of application 11/535,896 define this feature in greater detail. Claim 48 of application 10/597,837 and claim 45 of application 11/535,896 recite that the cleaning agent in solid form dissolves and releases a substantially consistent quantity of cleaning agent over from 10 to 40 cleaning wash or rinse cycles.